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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Masanori HIRANO

Serial No. : Not Yet Known

Int'l Application
No.: PCT/JP03/06667

Date Filed : Concurrently Herewith

Int'l Application
Filing Date: 28 May 2003

For : THRESHOLD VALUE MATRIX, IMAGE PROCESSING
APPARATUS, IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS AND PRINTER
DRIVER

Mail Stop PCT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
ATTN: DO/EO/US

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the applicant's duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the information identified herein are also provided.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, filed concurrently herewith, and that such art be made of record in said application.

The subject application is a U.S. national phase application under 35 U.S.C. 371 of International Application No. PCT/JP03/06667. Several of the enclosed items were cited in the International Search Report, Written Opinion and/or International Preliminary Examination Report in connection with International Application No. PCT/JP03/06667. Copies of the International Search Report, Written Opinion and/or International Preliminary Examination Report are submitted concurrently herewith.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are


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submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



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Form PTO-1449

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Patent and Trademark OfficeDT0  22 NOV 2004Atty. Docket No.
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Not Yet KnownINFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
(Use several sheets if necessary)Applicant: **10/517356**
Masanori HIRANOFiling Date:
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Group Art Unit:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	JP 9 - 2 4 7 4 7 5	9-19-1997	Japan			Abstract	
	JP 2000 -3 5 0 0 2 7	12-15-2000	Japan			Abstract	
	JP 2001 -6 9 3 4 7	3-16-2001	Japan			Abstract	
	JP 2001 -8 6 3 3 6	3-30-2001	Japan			Abstract	
	JP 2002 -1 1 8 7 4 6	4-19-2002	Japan			Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.